

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Governor Chet Culver ★ Lt. Governor Patty Judge

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GOVERNOR CULVER ANNOUNCES AMERICORPS EXPANSION IN IOWA

442 Member Placements and \$3.25 Million in Funds Announced Today

Des Moines, IA – The Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service voted this week to award more than \$3.25 million in AmeriCorps State grants and education awards to support the placement of 442 AmeriCorps members within community-based organizations across Iowa. The grant announcements come on the heels of AmeriCorps Week, May 11-18, which recognizes the contributions of the 75,000 AmeriCorps members serving nationally and calls for more Americans to get involved.

Since 1994, more than four thousand Iowa residents have provided more than 5.2 million hours to local communities through AmeriCorps. This federally funded national service program, administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service, enables Americans of any age to serve their community, state and country through local schools, governments or nonprofits. The Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service oversees AmeriCorps and other volunteer and service programs for the state.

“AmeriCorps members are tackling our toughest problems, strengthening our communities, and improving the civic life of our state,” said Governor Culver. “I congratulate all of the organizations receiving these grants and thank all those who have answered the call to service by joining AmeriCorps.”

Governor Culver has already approved the placement of 40 AmeriCorps VISTA members by the Corporation for National and Community Service across Iowa this year and an additional 30 member placements are expected this summer. Also, 102 members will serve in Iowa with national nonprofits through grants made directly by the Corporation for National and Community Service and 160 members housed at the new AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) Regional Campus headquartered in Vinton, bringing the total number of AmeriCorps members that will be based in Iowa to 774 for the 2008-2009 program year up from the 562 this year and 284 last year.

AmeriCorps members can serve on a full or part time basis. Full time members receive a modest living allowance and all members receive an education award of up to \$4725 which can be used for higher education tuition or loan repayment after completing a full term of service. The following chart details the grants made today by the Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service:

Organization	# of Members	AmeriCorps Grant	Member Education Awards
*Big Brothers/Big Sisters of the Quad Cities – BBBS AmeriCorps Consortium of Eastern Iowa	12	\$126,000	\$47,250
City of Dubuque – Partners in Learning AmeriCorps (Dubuque)	52	\$195,213	\$75,600
Comm. Corrections Improvement Assn. Each One Reach One AmeriCorps (Linn County)	26	\$138,519	\$51,975
Dept. Of Natural Resources - Keepers of the Land AmeriCorps (Statewide)	52	\$428,330	\$160,650
Eastern Iowa Conservation Alliance AmeriCorps (Eastern Iowa)	17	\$184,794	\$70,875
* Graceland University	22	\$145,670	51,975
Habitat for Humanity of Iowa (Statewide)	19	\$182,356	\$68,513
Iowa Campus Compact AmeriCorps Program (Statewide)	158	\$19,890	\$156,634
Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence - R.E.A.C.H (Statewide)	22	\$168,780	\$92,138
Iowa Legal Aid AmeriCorps Project (Statewide)	11	\$125,800	\$47,250
Iowa State University - State of Promise AmeriCorps (Statewide)	36	\$343,389	\$137,025
Prevent Child Abuse Iowa – AmeriCorps Partnering to Protect Children (Statewide)	15	\$174,872	\$66,150
TOTAL	442	\$2,233,613.00	\$1,026,035.00

*new

For individual program information or information on site locations please contact the Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service at 1.800.308.5987. For more information on AmeriCorps, to view Governor Culver's AmeriCorps Week Proclamation or to learn about other programs of the Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service, visit www.volunteeriowa.org or to apply for AmeriCorps go to www.AmeriCorps.gov
